



US Army Corps of Engineers

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	ADS-200308230
EVALUATOR:	Mr. Arel Simpson
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5996
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	regulatory@mvk02.usace.army.mil
DATE:	January 7, 2004
EXPIRATION DATE:	January 28, 2004

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality are considering an application for a Department of the Army Permit and State Water Quality Certification for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, ATTN: CEMVK-OD-F and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 10385, Jackson, Mississippi 39289-0385, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:

Dr. Tom McRaney
1018 6th Avenue
Picayune, Mississippi
39466

Name of Agent:

Ms. Peggy Holliday
Solutions, Inc.
Post Office Box 820127
Vicksburg, Mississippi
39182-0127

Dr. Ahmad Haidar
1016-C 6th Avenue
Picayune, Mississippi
39466

Location of Work: Section 12, T6S-R17W, latitude 30°32'31.08" North longitude 89°39'38.04" West, within the Pearl River drainage basin, Pearl River County, in Picayune, Mississippi.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to conduct regulated activities associated with the construction and management of a proposed hospital campus, Gulf South Hospital Campus in Picayune, Mississippi. The new facility would serve the health care needs of the residents of Picayune, Pearl River County, and surrounding areas.

The applicant proposes to construct the hospital campus on a 31.4-acre site of which approximately 21.6 acres are jurisdictional wetlands. The proposed construction activities would require mechanized land clearing and filling of approximately 21.6 acres of jurisdictional wetlands. Approximately 35,000 cubic yards of clean fill material would be discharged within the wetlands in order to raise the project site to the desired elevation.

The hospital campus would include physician's clinics, a hospital with additional buildings housing housekeeping services, central supply and receiving services, home health services, maintenance services, and other support services necessary to operate the clinics and hospital. Roads and parking areas would also be constructed to provide access and parking for those utilizing the proposed facilities. The out parcels within the 31.4-acre campus site would provide opportunities for uses, such as pharmacies, dental offices, additional clinics, medical record offices, etc., that normally accompany hospital and clinic sites.

The proposed construction activities would also include the construction of retention ponds necessary to meet state and/or local storm water runoff requirements.

The project site has been timbered in the recent past with some mature hardwoods and pines left standing throughout the site. The site vegetation consists of loblolly pine, longleaf pine, slash pine, water oak, post oak, red oak, red maple, cypress, tupelo, sweetbay magnolia, red bay, gallberry, wax myrtle, yaupon, pitcher plant and chain fern.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing and discharge of fill material in wetlands requires a Department of the Army Permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: An initial review indicates that the proposed project would not affect any of the sites in Pearl River County listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Copies of this notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, the Corps archaeologists, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to cultural resources that could result from this activity.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water

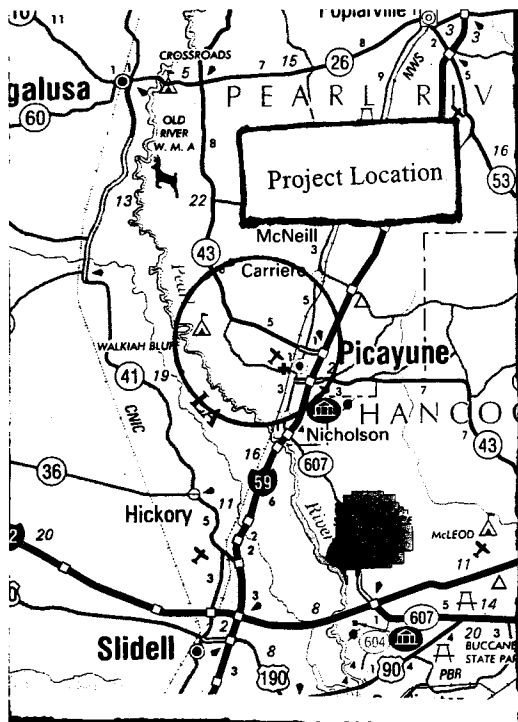
quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

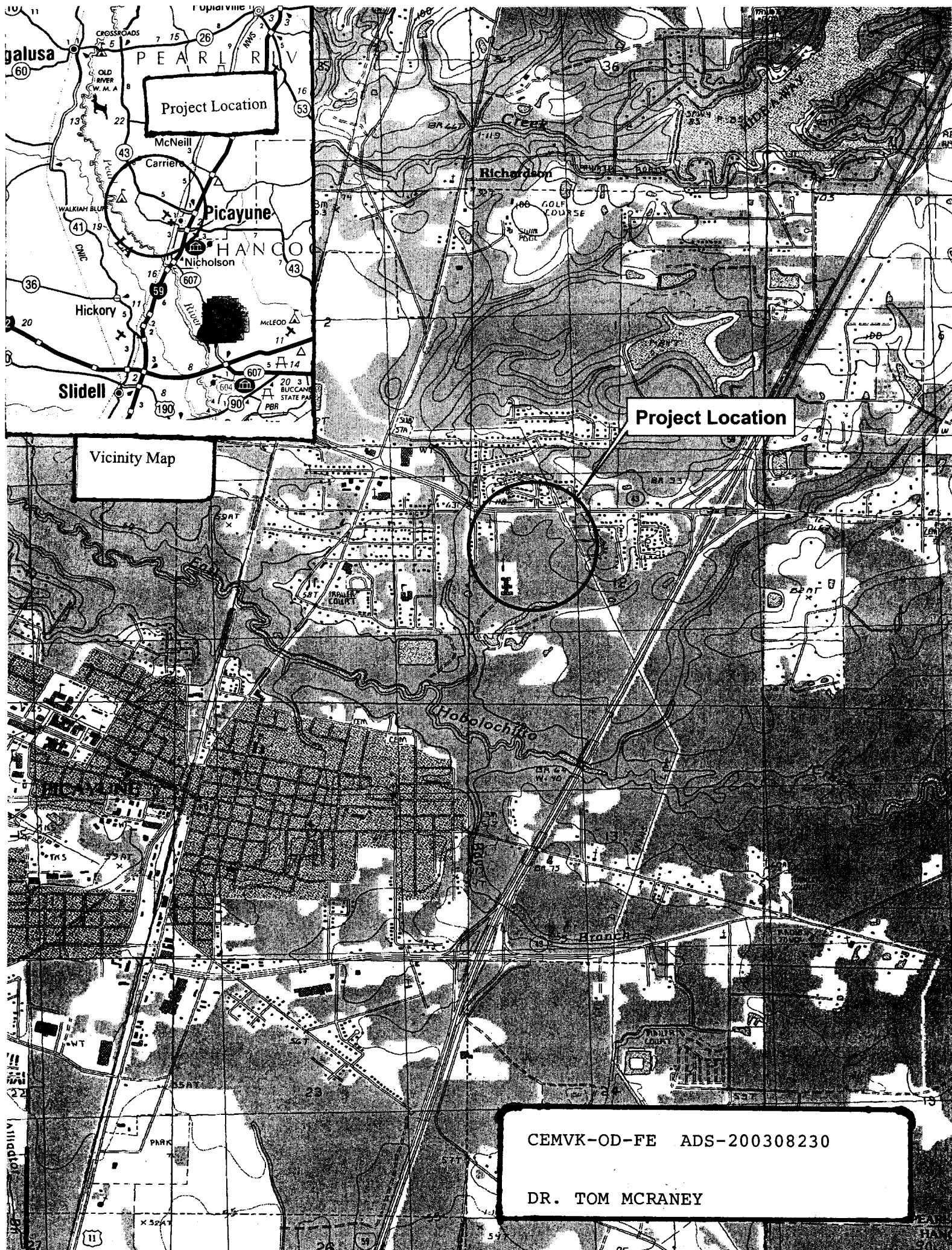
Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/main.asp>, or go directly to the Final Permit Actions web page at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/MonthlyNotice/pnmain.asp>.

W. Harold Lee
Team Leader
Evaluation Section

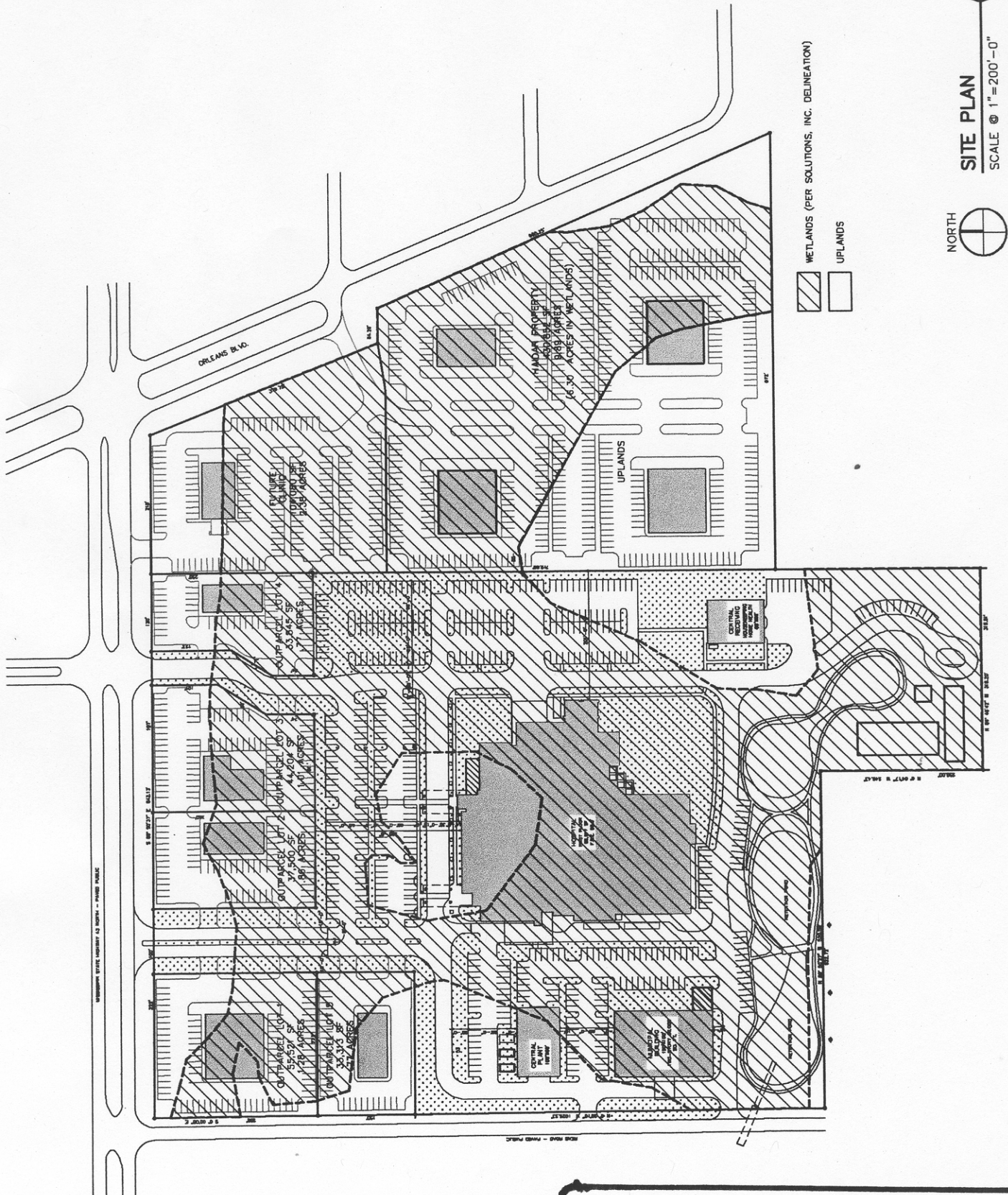


Vicinity Map



CEMVK-OD-FE ADS-200308230

DR. TOM MCRANEY



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